The Police has not referred to irregularities on the part of financing banks. RBI is in correspondence with the concerned banks with regard to complicity, if any, of their staff.

(d) and (e) RBI have reported that it has come to the notice of Vysya Bank Ltd. that in three cases in two New Delhi branches of the bank, cheque books were issued during 1994/1995 on the basis of xeroxed copy of cheque requisition slip and fake requisition slip bearing forged/ bogus signatures. Subsequently, these cheques were used for fraudulently drawing money from the bank. The total amount involved in the fraud is Rs. 8.30 lakhs. On the basis of investigation and departmental enquiries completed so far, three officers have been awarded a punishment of withholding of one increment with cumulative effect and a clerk of the branch has been placed under suspension.

Permission for Expansion to State owned Oil Corporation

2594. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State owned oil corporations have been allowed expansion beyond Rs. 50 crores without obtaining prior permission of Government; and

(b) whether the proposal is being made applicable to all state owned companies?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No. Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Denying Benefit of Time-Bound Promotion to some Nursing Staff in spite of Cadre Review in AIIMS

2595. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inspite of Cadre Review in AIIMS which was done with a view to give benefit of time-bound promotion to every worker, some members of the nursing staff have not been given the benefit of time-bound promotion; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b) There have been two cadre reviews in AIIMS. In the Cadre review of 1984, employees in Gr. 'B' 'C' and 'D' cadres were given promotion to the next higher grade only subject to fitness and completion of 8 years of service as on 1.4.84. In the cadre review of 1991 also, promotions were given to employees subject to merit, availability of posts in the higher grade, and eligibility as per recruitment rules.

Posting of SBI Officers abroad

2596. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Bank of India, Central Office, Mumbai has its branches abroad also;

(b) if so, how many branches are there abroad and details of branches in each country;

(c) what is the pattern of selecting of officers to be posted at these branches;

(d) whether it is a fact that only young officers like Probationary Officers and Trainee Officers are posted abroad and not JMGS-I and MMS-II and Scale-III officers; and

(e) what steps the Bank would take to remove this anomaly so that officers from JMGS-I, MMS-II and III are also posted abroad?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.